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The following are extract-translations of reports which [REDACTED] were prepared by Imre Gyomai, press attache at the Hungarian Legation in France, for forwarding to Hungary:

25X1X6

Paris, 14 October 1948

Subject: Franc-Tireur Feud

The Franc-Tireur feud is coming to an end. The split which I had previously reported has come about. With Valois and Sauge at their head, 25 workers on the Franc-Tireur have given notice that they are breaking connection with the paper. The present editorial staff which is headed by Georges Altmann is trying hard to strike a radical, extreme Left Wing tone in order to mislead the public. The public, however, is not mislead and knows that the tone is false. As a result of negotiations between Georges Altmann and the leaders of the departing groups, it was agreed that the Franc-Tireur itself would publish a communique of the departing group informing the public why they were forced to act as they did. The communique was to have been published on 8 October. Instead an editorial informed the public of the changes in the staff by way of an accusation against the departing group.

I spoke with Georges Valois and he informed me that since his former associates were not gentlemen about their agreement, placards would be employed to advise the public of his group's standpoint. These placards will be on the streets within a few days.

The change which took place in the Franc-Tireur did more than explode the individual ambitions of the De Gaullist-Trotskyite elements and of Georges Altmann. I direct attention to a very important circumstance. Charles Ronsac, the foreign affairs editor of Franc-Tireur is not only one of the personnel directors of that paper, but he is also the managing editor of the Hearst interest

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Opera Mundi. It can logically be expected that within a short time the Franc-Tireur will take the field for the Truman-Marshall political, social and economic concepts. There is also no doubt that there will soon be a struggle between Georges Altmann and Charles Ronsac for the leadership of the paper.

I have known both Charles Ronsac and Georges Altmann for a long time and know both of them to be extremely ambitious. Altmann began his career as a Communist journalist but from the very beginning he did not follow the party line implicitly. Within a short time he joined the ranks of the renegades and it was not until the German occupation that his conduct gave him forgiveness. Through the goodness of Georges Valois he got the editorship of Franc-Tireur. He acted as an outright Left Winger as long as he did not have to take a definite stand on the foreign and domestic problems. Later when he was forced to take a definite stand he helped Jean Paul Sartre form a new political group whose real purpose was to splinter the forces of democracy. His about face was hastened by Mme. Jean Hess who has extreme influence over the weak Altmann. Charles Ronsac got his schooling from the so-called "rotten press" along with Pal Winkler. Winkler is of Hungarian origin. Even before the war Winkler was a Hearst representative and it was with Hearst support that Opera Mundi was established. This was the press representation which provided the press of France and Europe with the most impossibly colored articles and it has by now created a widespread apparatus for its poisonous work. Charles Ronsac is one of the heads of this huge apparatus. There is no doubt in my mind that Franc-Tireur will soon come under Hearst control. This is made even more probable by the fact that Altmann is not self-willed and even the De Gaullists do not believe in him whereas Ronsac is headstrong and will give 100% satisfaction to his backers.

The twenty-five journalists who left Franc-Tireur will probably join the staff of Liberation on the 18th of this month. The foreign affairs column will be run by our friend Louis Martin Chauffier and by a reputable young diplomatic journalist named Clement Woerly. The latter began his career after the liberation on the staff of Front National. After that paper closed down he got a job with Franc-Tireur. He can really thank me for his job on Franc-Tireur because I convinced Valois that he needed a trusted Left-Wing journalist to watch over the double-dealing Ronsac.

Raymond Manevy and Claude Martial are leaving their posts with Liberation. Raymond Manevy is leaving for personal reasons - not being able to get along with the editor-in-chief Emmanuel d'Astier (de la Vigerie) - and Martial is leaving for political reasons.

Imre Gyomai
Press Attache

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Reporter: Imre Gyomai
Press Attache

Subject: New Developments in the
Feud between Liberation
and Franc-Tireur; Appearance
Left-Wing Socialist Periodical

The De Gaullist-Trotskyite Franc-Tireur wants to take its feud with Liberation into the field of police provocation. The political police are undoubtedly coming into the feud to back up Georges Altmann on orders from the Ministry of Interior and from Washington.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Albert Bayet was chosen for this task because of his reputation as a confirmed Left Wing publicist. However, for some time now the "bad language" newspapers have been whispering that Albert Bayet's espousal of the Left Wing was not genuine and that he did it as part of an arrangement whereby he obtained the freedom of his son who had openly collaborated with the Germans during their occupation of France. In the split of the editorial staff of Franc-Tireur, Bayet took the position that the material interests of the paper were tied to the Trotskyite-De Gaullist, Altmann, Ronsac group. Very few people knew about this change of position so Bayet was the most logical person to get information about the new Liberation for the political police.

From certain sources I know that Bayet will soon publish these fabricated and baseless news items which will refer to the financial backers of Liberation. It will be his job to use secret means in tracking down the political, social and moral groups which give financial support to Liberation. The baseless charge that Liberation gets financial support from Soviet sources is no longer given any serious consideration. To my knowledge, the political police have instructed Albert Bayet to use the press and whispering campaigns to convince the public that Liberation receives its funds from Budapest, Bucharest, Prague and Warsaw.

Today I learned that part of the Liberation staff, numbering eighteen, who were not willing to continue their financial support of the paper under the Vallois-d'Astier leadership, were paid approximately eight million by way of settlement.

Raymond Manevy, the former editor-in-chief of Liberation has become editor-in-chief of the De Gaullist evening paper Paris-Presse. This change is welcome from our standpoint because Manevy has already promised that as an old friend he stands ready to serve me and will always be willing to keep me informed on matters which might arise in relation to Hungary.

The Left Wing Socialist periodical under the editorship of Jean Morris Hermann still has not made its appearance. From workers on the paper I have found out that certain publication difficulties have arisen. The type has ~~already~~ been set for the first number. In the meantime the directors have decided that Communists as well as Left-Wing Socialists will occupy positions on the editorial committee. The dispute over this point is still continuing and is holding up publication of the paper.

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